

26 Bent Street
Greenwich NSW 2065
22/10/70

Dear Bob & Loveday,

I am sorry you were not able to make it to
Rubie's funeral - I was looking forward to
seeing you again. It was probably dad's
funeral that I saw you last Bob, and goodness
knows how long it is since I saw you two
girls.

The day, the funeral activities etc could not have
been better. I am flown from Brisbane. I
joined them at Mascot, and we took a hire
car from Tullamarine. Apart from a 20
minute stop in Geelong to eat a pancake
lunch we drove straight to the church and
had 30 minutes to spare before the service
started.

There must have been about 40 people in the
church, mainly friends. The minister
spoke nicely and sincerely, and we invited
him to travel with us to the local cemetery
for the burial service.

Lots of nostalgic feelings at the cemetery - I

was tempted to do a circuit of the township but time didn't allow.

Bach at Ocean Grove for the "bun fight", the ladies of the church had catered magnificently for a division of commandos - cakes, scones, tea, coffee, sandwiches etc etc. I was quite touched by their interest, concern and generosity.

Law and I had time only for a 10 minute visit to Katie's house, 20 minutes at the church hall and we were on our way back to Melbourne. He made it nicely with again about 30 minutes to spare before we had to board the aircraft. I arrived back home here around 8-45 & I guess Law made it by 9-30. A long day.

You will have heard from George Wilson as Executor of the Will. I am in agreement with everything he has noted in his letter to you. I feel however that the organ request requires a bit of explanation. Both Matthew [now 20] and Jenny [now 18] play piano. Jenny in fact will continue with music studies in the next 3 years of her University course. On the infrequent occasions we were able to visit Ocean Grove both the children would play the

organ to Rubie's somewhat dubious pleasure. The instrument to the children has a strong sentimental value and both have expressed a keen desire to keep it in the family. Therefore if you have no objection I would certainly appreciate having it. Getting it to Sydney might cost me more than it is worth but that is not the issue. If you have any objections, then please raise them & let's talk about it.

Dick has disappeared off the face of the earth, and I am trying to trace him through his son Christopher who is a teacher with the NSW Dept of Education.

You will note George Wilson's desire to pay all funeral etc costs from his personal account. I do not understand why, nor do I wish to pry into his reasons. The \$ amount would not be significant and I don't see any reason for confrontation. It could be argued that it is a family matter, but it could also be argued that George is family. I respect his wishes, but am also prepared to carry all or part of the expense myself if necessary. In the interest of preserving harmony I have indicated my sentiments expressed above to

George.

I have one other request. For years I have been collecting family "matalgia". I have old photos, birth & marriage certificates, newspaper clippings etc etc. I am anxious that in the clear up of Rubie's belongings, nothing is thrown away as junk. George has been requested by me to put aside any scrap of paper which in any way can relate to our family history and put it all in a box for despatch to me. If therefore in your search for your entitlements you come across any such document, I'd be delighted if you would reserve it for me please.

Related to his request, in the 10 minutes I had at the house last Tuesday, I picked up a couple of old photos, and some sheet music which must have been published at least 50 years ~~old~~ ago - or more. Both Matthew & Jenny have had a lovely time playing for example from "Alan's Second Piano Folio price 4/- net" shows like Home Sweet Home, La Paloma, Silver Chimes, Serenade etc.

My job takes me around a bit. I will be in Brisbane for a day next week, Canberra for a day the week after, and Hong Kong / 5

during the first two weeks of November. There is a possibility I will visit Melbourne soon after that. If it is appropriate during such a visit perhaps I could give you a call and meet up with you for an hour or so.

Until we meet again, best wishes & kind regards

George Stevens.